

*a3*  
*a4* between the hub 70 and the nut 60. The washer 80 is flat and provides a surface which abuts both the hub 70 and the nut 60.

**In the Drawings:**

Please replace the original informal drawings with new amended formal drawings attached.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel Claim 11 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 1 as follows:

1. A spindle nut retainer for preventing disengagement of a nut threadedly engaged to a spindle, comprising:

an integral base section and a generally perpendicular peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration while in place over the nut;

wherein said base section defines a central aperture; and

wherein said peripheral section has an interior surface and includes a plurality of fingers which define one or more longitudinal windows therebetween, said fingers including nut engaging surfaces on the interior surface of the peripheral section.

7. The spindle nut retainer of claim 1 wherein said peripheral section includes an integrally formed ring at an end of and interconnecting said fingers opposite said base section.

8. A spindle nut retainer for preventing disengagement of a nut threadedly engaged to a spindle, comprising:

an integral base section and a generally perpendicular peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration while in place over the nut;

*as*  
wherein said base section defines a central aperture; and

*and*  
wherein said peripheral section comprises a plurality of fingers which create one or more longitudinal windows therebetween, said fingers including a flared end bent towards the center of said spindle nut retainer.

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13. A spindle nut locking system comprising:

a spindle having a first end;

a nut threadedly engaged to said spindle, said nut having flats;

a spindle nut retainer, circumscribing said nut and said spindle, comprising an integral base section and a generally perpendicular peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration wherein said base section defines a central aperture, and wherein said peripheral section includes a plurality of fingers which create one or more longitudinal windows therebetween.

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*C*  
Please add new claims as follows:

18. The spindle nut retainer of claim 8 wherein at least one of said fingers includes first and second lobes at an end of said peripheral section opposite said base section.

19. The spindle nut locking system of claim 13 wherein said spindle includes a threaded section and a non-threaded section and said nut includes a first face adjacent said non-threaded spindle section and a second face on an opposite side of said nut and wherein said spindle nut retainer base section is adjacent said opposite side of said nut.

20. A spindle nut retainer for placing over a nut threadedly engaged to a spindle having a threaded section with a truncated circular cross-section, said spindle nut retainer preventing disengagement of the nut and comprising:

an integral base section and a generally perpendicular peripheral section maintaining a cup-shaped configuration while in place over the nut;